

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/604,795
Docket No.: 9722-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

It is noted with great appreciation that the Office has allowed claims 1-14.

The Office Action has objected to the drawings, the specification with respect to claims 16-19. The Office Action has also rejected claims 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang (U. S. Patent 6,452,270). Applicants have amended the specification and the claims. Applicants have also cancelled claim 19. After entry of amendments, claims 1-18 and 20 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Amendments

The term of "an alloy of metals" means the metallic alloy. The alloy usually includes several kinds of suitable metals. Therefore, the amended term "metallic alloy" is clear and does not raise new matter.

Claim 16 is well supported in [0021] about the adhesion layer 222.

Claim 17 is supported in [0021], in which the nickel-vanadium is formed by sputtering.

Claim 18 is supported in the last line of paragraph [0021].

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102

The Office Action rejected claims 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

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Huang. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

With respect to independent claim 15, as for example shown in FIG. 3A, the adhesion layer 322 has the direct contact with the pad 316. Then the wettable layer and the nickel-vanadium layer are sequentially formed over the adhesion layer 322.

In re Huang, as shown in fig. 7, *the titanium layer 340a as the adhesion layer is formed on the passivation layer 330 but not on the pad 320.* The first copper layer 340b (wetable layer) in direct contact with the pad 320 (col. 3, lines 59-60).

Therefore, the present invention, as recited in independent claim 15, is distinguishable over Huang.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 15 patently define over the prior art, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 16-18 and 20 patently define over the prior art references as well. Claims 1-14 have been allowed.

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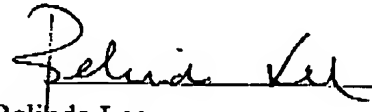
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-18 and 20 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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